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IS 6046 (1982): Gypsum for Agricultural Use [FAD 7: Soil Quality and Gertilizers]



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Bhartrhari—Nitiśatakam

“Knowledge is such a treasure which cannot be stolen”

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IS : 6046 - 1982

REAFFIRMED

MAY 2004

Indian Standard
SPECIFICATION FOR
GYPSUM FOR AGRICULTURAL USE
(First Revision)

UDC 631·821·2



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INDIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTION
MANAK BHAVAN, 9 BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI 110002

Indian Standard

SPECIFICATION FOR GYPSUM FOR AGRICULTURAL USE

(First Revision)

Soil Amendments and Reclamation of Problem Soils Sectional Committee,
AFDC 45

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Lucknow

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Department of Agriculture, Govt of Gujarat, Ahmadabad

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Joint Commissioner (Soil Conservation), Ministry
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Messrs Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited,
Rohtas (Bihar)

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DR K. N. GOEL (*Alternate*)

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Gujarat Agricultural University, Ahmadabad

DR A. K. NATH

Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH PABLA

Punjab Land Development and Reclamation Corporation Ltd, Chandigarh

SHRI P. PARVATHIEM

Hindustan Zinc Limited, New Delhi

(Continued on page 2)

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Chandigarh

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Deputy Director (Agri & Food), ISI

Soil Amendments for Alkali Soils Panel, AFDC 45 : P 2

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Bangalore
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**AMENDMENT NO. 2 SEPTEMBER 2012
TO
IS 6046 : 1982 SPECIFICATION FOR GYPSUM
FOR AGRICULTURAL USE**

(First Revision)

[Page 4, clause 3.2(b)] — Substitute ‘Quantity of the material in the package;’ *for* ‘Mass of the material in the package;’.

(FAD 7)

Reprography Unit, BIS, New Delhi, India

**AMENDMENT NO. 1 MARCH 1996
TO
IS 6046 : 1982 SPECIFICATION FOR GYPSUM FOR
AGRICULTURAL USE**

(First Revision)

(*Page 3, clause 0.4*) — Substitute 'IS 1288 : 1982*' for 'IS : 1288 - 1973*'.
(*Page 3, foot-note marked '***) — Add '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 3, clause 0.5*) — Substitute 'IS 460 (Part 1) : 1985§' for 'IS : 460 (Part I) - 1978§'.
(*Page 3, foot-note marked '§'*) — Substitute '(*third revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 3, foot-note marked '§'*) — Substitute '(*third revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 4, clause 2.1*) — Substitute 'IS 1288 : 1982*' for 'IS : 1288 - 1973*'.
(*Page 4, foot-note marked '***) — Add '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 4, foot-note marked '***) — Add '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.
(*Page 6, clause A-1.1.6*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 265 : 1993*)' for '(*see* IS : 265 - 1976*)'.

(*Page 6, clause A-1.1.6*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 265 : 1993*)' for '(*see* IS : 265 - 1976*)'.
(*Page 6, foot-note marked '***) — Substitute '(*fourth revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 6, foot-note marked '***) — Substitute '(*fourth revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.
(*Page 8, clause A-2.1.3*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 266 : 1993†)' for '(*see* IS : 266 - 1977†)'.

(*Page 8, clause A-2.1.3*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 266 : 1993†)' for '(*see* IS : 266 - 1977†)'.
(*Page 8, foot-note marked '†'*) — Substitute '(*third revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

(*Page 8, foot-note marked '†'*) — Substitute '(*third revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.
(*Page 9, clause B-1.1.4*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 265 : 1993*)' for '(*see* IS : 265 - 1976*)'.

(*Page 9, clause B-1.1.4*) — Substitute '(*see* IS 265 : 1993*)' for '(*see* IS : 265 - 1976*)'.
(*Page 9, foot-note marked '***) — Substitute '(*fourth revision*)' for '(*second revision*)' at the end of text.

Indian Standard

SPECIFICATION FOR GYPSUM FOR AGRICULTURAL USE (*First Revision*)

0. FOREWORD

0.1 This Indian Standard (First Revision) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 1 February 1982, after the draft finalized by the Soil Amendments and Reclamation of Problem Soils Sectional Committee had been approved by the Agricultural and Food Products Division Council.

0.2 The major soil amendment for alkali soils available in the country is the mineral gypsum. This agricultural grade gypsum is mined at several places in the country but the bulk of the quantity occurs in western Rajasthan.

0.3 This standard was originally published in 1971. In the light of experience gained in the use of mineral gypsum as soil amendment, it was felt that this standard needed revision. The minimum limit for calcium sulphate dihydrate content has been increased from 50 to 70 percent. Present revision would facilitate procurement of quality gypsum for use as soil amendment.

0.4 This standard is one of the series of Indian Standards on gypsum. The other standards in this series are IS : 1288-1973*, IS : 1289-1960† and IS : 1290-1973‡.

0.5 For particle size, the use of IS Sieves conforming to IS : 460 (Part I)-1978§ is prescribed. Where IS sieves are not available, other standard sieves as judged from aperture size may be used.

0.6 For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated expressing the result of a test or analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS : 2-1960||. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value should be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

*Methods of test for mineral gypsum and gypsum products.

†Methods for sampling of mineral gypsum.

‡Specification for mineral gypsum (*second revision*).

§Specification for test sieves: Part I Wire cloth test sieves (*second revision*).

||Rules for rounding off numerical values (*revised*).

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard prescribes the requirements, packing and marking, methods of sampling and testing of gypsum as an amendment for alkali soils. It covers only mineral gypsum.

2. REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Fineness — All the material shall pass through a 2mm sieve but atleast 50 percent of it should pass through a 0.25mm (60 mesh) sieve, when tested by the method prescribed in clause 3 of IS : 1288-1973*.

2.2 Calcium Sulphate Content — The material shall contain not less than 70 percent calcium sulphate dihydrate by mass as tested according to the method prescribed in Appendix A.

2.3 Sodium Content — The sodium content of the mineral shall not be more than 0.75 percent by mass (as Na) when tested by the method prescribed in Appendix B.

3. PACKING AND MARKING

3.1 Packing — The material shall be supplied in bulk or in packages as agreed to between the purchaser and the supplier.

3.2 Marking — When supplied in packages, each package shall be securely closed and marked indelibly with the following information:

- a) Name of the material;
- b) Mass of the material in the package;
- c) Minimum calcium sulphate dihydrate content;
- d) Particle size;
- e) Manufacturer's name and recognised trade-mark; and
- f) Lot number.

3.2.1 When supplied in bulk, a metallic or card board label of appropriate size, bearing the information required to be given under 3.2 with suitable paint or ink shall be conspicuously displayed on the bulk carrier and also placed inside the consignment.

3.2.2 The material may also be marked with the ISI Certification Mark.

NOTE — The use of the ISI Certification Mark is governed by the provisions of the Indian Standards Institution (Certification Marks) Act, and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder. Presence of this mark on products covered by an Indian Standard conveys the assurance that they have been produced to comply with the requirements of that standard, under a well defined system of inspection testing and quality control during production. This system, which is devised and supervised by ISI and operated by the producer has the further safeguard that the products as actually marketed are continuously checked by ISI for conformity to the standard. Details of the conditions, under which a licence for the use of the the ISI Certification Mark may be granted to manufacturers or processors may be obtained from the Indian Standards Institution.

*Methods of test for mineral gypsum and gypsum products.

4. SAMPLING

4.1 Representative test samples of the material shall be drawn as given in 5 of IS : 1289-1960*.

4.2 Number of Tests

4.2.1 Tests for all the characteristics given in 2 shall be conducted on the composite samples.

4.3 Criteria for Conformity

4.3.1 A lot shall be considered in conformity to the specification if the composite sample meets all the requirements given in 2.

APPENDIX A

(Clause 2.2)

DETERMINATION OF CALCIUM SULPHATE CONTENT

A-0. GENERAL

A-0.1 For determining calcium sulphate content, calcium content and sulphate content are separately determined.

A-1. CALCIUM

A-1.0 General — Calcium is precipitated as calcium oxalate which is titrated against potassium permanganate.

A-1.1 Reagents

A-1.1.1 Ammonium Acetate – Acetic Acid Buffer — Dissolve 7.708 g ammonium acetate in 100 ml of distilled water and mix with 100 ml of 1 N acetic acid to get a buffer of pH 4.5.

A-1.1.2 Ammonium Chloride — (see IS : 1113-1965†).

A-1.1.3 Ammonium Hydroxide — approximately 4 N.

A-1.1.4 Ammonium Oxalate — Pure.

*Methods for sampling of mineral gypsum.

†Specification for ammonium chloride, technical and pure (revised).

A-1.1.5 Bromophenol Blue Indicator — 0.04 percent solution in distilled water.

A-1.1.6 Concentrated Hydrochloric Acid — (see IS : 265-1976*).

A-1.1.7 Concentrated Nitric Acid — (see IS : 264-1976†).

A-1.1.8 Dilute Ammonium Hydroxide — 1 N.

A-1.1.9 Dilute Hydrochloric Acid — approximately 4 N.

A-1.1.10 Dilute Potassium Permanganate Solution — 0.1 percent.

A-1.1.11 Dilute Sulphuric Acid — approximately 4 N.

A-1.1.12 Methyl Red Indicator — Dissolve 0.15 g of methyl red in 500 ml of water.

A-1.1.13 Standard Potassium Permanganate Solution — 0.05 N.

A-1.2 Procedure

A-1.2.1 Preparation of Sample — Crush the material so as to pass through a 1-mm IS sieve. Weigh 5 g of the sieved material and place it in a thin layer in a petri dish. Dry in an oven maintained at $45 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for two hours and then cool in a desiccator. This shall be the *prepared sample*.

A-1.2.2 Weigh accurately 0.5 g of the *prepared sample* in a porcelain dish. Add 25 ml of dilute hydrochloric acid and evaporate on a low flame to almost dryness. Cool and add enough of concentrated hydrochloric acid to wet the residue thoroughly. Add 10 ml of water and boil. Filter and wash the residue thoroughly with water, collecting the filtrate and washing in a beaker. Discard the residue. Add to the filtrate a few drops of concentrated nitric acid and boil to ensure oxidation of iron, if present. Add 2 g of ammonium chloride previously dissolved in water and then make alkaline with ammonium hydroxide (see Note). Boil for a few minutes until the precipitate, if produced, coagulates. Filter and then wash the precipitate three or four times with water, collecting the filtrate and washings in a beaker. Discard the precipitate.

NOTE — In case gypsum contains phosphate ions and for their removal the solution after addition of ammonium chloride should be made alkaline with dilute ammonium hydroxide using *bromophenol blue indicator* solution. Then add dilute hydrochloric acid dropwise to make the solution slightly acidic (yellow colour of the indicator). Dilute the solution to 200 ml and boil it. Add 20 ml of ammonium acetate-acetic acid buffer solution of pH 4.5 and keep the solution hot for 15 minutes. Filter the precipitate, if produced, through a filter paper and wash it twice, collecting the filtrate and washings in a beaker. Discard the precipitate and proceed as directed in A-1.2.3.

*Specification for hydrochloric acid (second revision).

†Specification for nitric acid (second revision).

A-1.2.3 To the filtrate and washings obtained in **A-1.2.2** add 2 to 3 drops of methyl red indicator and then dilute hydrochloric acid in slight excess. Make up to 500 ml and then take 125 ml of the solution in a beaker. Heat nearly to boiling and add 2 g of ammonium oxalate previously dissolved in water. To the hot solution, constantly stirred, add ammonium hydroxide dropwise until the mixture is distinctly alkaline. Allow the precipitate to stand for 2 hours. Decant the supernatant through the same filter paper, then wash the precipitate by decantation three or four times. Transfer the precipitate to the filter paper and wash the precipitate and the filter paper first with dilute ammonium hydroxide and then with cold water until 1 ml of the washings does not decolourize a drop of potassium permanganate solution in presence of 1 ml of dilute sulphuric acid. Throw away the filtrate and washings, puncture the filter paper and transfer the precipitate through the puncture into a beaker using a jet of water. Wash the filter paper five times with 10 ml of hot dilute sulphuric acid, collecting the washings in a conical flask and add 10 ml of dilute sulphuric acid and warm to 60°C. Titrate with standard potassium permanganate solution. As the end point reaches, put the filter paper in the conical flask and continue the titration till end point is restored. Carry out a blank titration on the reagents used.

A-1.3 Calculation

$$\text{a) Calcium content, percent by mass} = \frac{8.0 \times (V - v) N}{M}$$

Where

V = volume, in ml, of standard potassium permanganate solution used;

v = volume, in ml, of standard potassium permanganate solution used in blank titration;

N = Normality of standard potassium permanganate solution; and

M = Mass in g of the *prepared sample* taken for the test in **A-1.2.2**.

$$\text{b) Calcium sulphate dihydrate } (\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}) = 4.30 \text{ Calcium content}$$

A-2. SULPHATE

A-2.0 General — Sulphate content is calculated from the mass of barium sulphate precipitate obtained from the sample.

IS : 6046 - 1982

A-2.1 Reagents

A-2.1.1 Barium Chloride Solution — Dissolve 12 g of barium chloride dihydrate in 100 ml of water.

A-2.1.2 Concentrated Nitric Acid — (see IS : 264-1976*).

A-2.1.3 Concentrated Sulphuric Acid — (see IS : 266-1977†).

A-2.1.4 Dilute Hydrochloric Acid — approximately 3 N.

A-2.2 Procedure — Dissolve 0.2 g of the *prepared sample*, accurately weighed, in 50 ml of dilute hydrochloric acid. Boil the solution and add 100 ml of boiling water. Continue boiling for 5 minutes. Filter immediately and wash thoroughly with hot water, collecting the filtrate and washings in a 500-ml beaker. Boil the solution in the beaker and, while boiling add 20 ml of hot barium chloride solution in a slow stream with constant stirring. Digest the precipitate in the beaker in a hot water bath for half an hour and then allow to settle for 4 hours. Filter by decantation through a filter paper (Whatman No. 42 or equivalent) and then wash the precipitate with hot water till washings are free from chlorides. Dry the residue. Ignite the filter paper over low flame in a crucible and when the carbon is burnt away, heat strongly till a white ash is obtained. Add one or two drops of concentrated nitric acid, heat gently to drive off the acid, cool and add one or two drops of concentrated sulphuric acid, heat gently at first to drive off the acid and then strongly (to 700°C). Cool in a desiccator and weigh.

A-2.3 Calculation

a) Sulphate content, percent by mass = $\frac{41.2 \times m}{M}$

b) Calcium sulphate dihydrate ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$), percent by mass
$$= \frac{73.85 \times m}{M}$$

Where

m = mass in g of the precipitate, and

M = mass in g of the *prepared sample* taken for the test.

Note — Calcium content and sulphate content should bear a ratio of 1 : 2.4.

*Specification for nitric acid (*second revision*).

†Specification for sulphuric acid (*second revision*).

APPENDIX B

(Clause 2.3)

DETERMINATION OF SODIUM CONTENT

B-0. GENERAL

B-0.1 Two methods, namely, Method A and Method B, are given. In case of dispute, Method A shall be followed.

B-1. METHOD A (GRAVIMETRIC METHOD)

B-1.0 After removing sulphates by adding barium chloride and removing excess of barium by ammonium carbonate, potassium is precipitated as perchlorate and in the filtrate sodium is precipitated as sodium magnesium uranyl acetate and the precipitate weighed.

B-1.1 Reagents

B-1.1.1 *Ammonium Carbonate Solution* — 10 percent.

B-1.1.2 *Ammonium Hydroxide* — 2 N.

B-1.1.3 *Barium Chloride Solution* — 12 percent.

B-1.1.4 *Concentrated Hydrochloric Acid* — (see IS : 265-1976*).

B-1.1.5 *Ethanol* — 96 percent.

B-1.1.6 *Magnesium Uranyl Acetate Solution*.

B-1.1.6.1 Dissolve 90 g of crystallized uranyl acetate in 60 ml of glacial acetic acid and sufficient water by stirring and warming it to 70°C, and dilute the solution to 1000 ml.

B-1.1.6.2 Dissolve 600 g of crystallized magnesium acetate in 60 ml of glacial acetic acid and sufficient water by stirring and warming to 70°C, and dilute the solution to 1 000 ml.

B-1.1.6.3 Mix the two solutions prepared in **B-1.1.6.1** and **B-1.1.6.2**. Allow to stand for several hours. Filter off any residue. The final solution should be kept at 20°C in flasks made of glass with very low sodium content. The solution should also be used at 20°C.

*Specification for hydrochloric acid (second revision).

B-1.1.7 Perchloric Acid

B-1.1.8 Washing Alcohol A— Prepared by mixing ethanol with 0.2 percent (v/v) of perchloric acid and saturated with potassium perchlorate.

B-1.1.9 Washing Alcohol B— Prepared by saturating ethanol with sodium manganesium uranyl acetate precipitate.

B-1.2 Procedure

B-1.2.1 Weigh accurately 5 g of the prepared sample (see A-1.2.1), add a few millilitres of concentrated hydrochloric acid and 100 ml of water and heat to boiling in a beaker. To the boiling solution, add slowly in small quantities an excess of barium chloride solution. Heat for sometime and then cool. Transfer to a 200-ml volumetric flask and dilute to the mark with water. Stir the solution thoroughly and filter. Reject the first few millilitres of filtrate. Take exactly 20 ml of the filtrate and add a slight excess of ammonium carbonate solution. Filter off the precipitated carbonates and wash the precipitate with water, the washings being added to the filtrate. Evaporate the filtrate and washings to dryness in a porcelain dish of 10 cm diameter and calcine gently. Add to the residue a small quantity of water and 6 ml of perchloric acid and evaporate almost to dryness in a water-bath.

B-1.2.2 Cool the residue, add a few millilitres of washing alcohol A and crush the moist mass to a fine state by using a glass pestle. Decant off the liquid. Repeat the crushing of the residue and decantation with further additions of washing alcohol A, collecting all the decanted liquid. Transfer the precipitate to a small filter and wash thoroughly with ethanol, adding these washings also to the decanted liquid. Neutralize the filtrate and washings with ammonium hydroxide and heat to dryness. Transfer the residue to a beaker with about 5 ml of water. The solutions should not contain more than 25 mg of sodium (as Na). Add magnesium uranyl acetate solution rapidly (100 ml if the amount of sodium is less than 10 mg and 10 ml/mg for larger amounts), maintaining the temperature at 20°C. Stir the precipitate and allow to stand for an hour at 20°C. Decant off the clear solution through a sintered glass crucible which has been previously washed with ethanol, dried at $120 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and weighed. Add a small quantity of washing alcohol B, and repeat the decantation twice. Finally, wash the precipitate with washing alcohol B on the filter. Dry the crucible with the precipitate for half an hour at 105°C to 110°C, cool in a desiccator and weigh.

B-1.3 Calculation

$$\text{B-1.3.1 Sodium content, percent by mass} = \frac{1.528 m}{M}$$

where

m = mass in g of the precipitate, and

M = mass in g of the prepared sample taken for the test.

B-2. METHOD B (FLAME PHOTOMETER METHOD)

B-2.0 General — Sodium may be determined by flame photometer method.

B-2.1 Apparatus

B-2.1.1 Flame Photometer

B-2.1.2 Glassware — Rinse all glassware with nitric acid (1 : 15) followed by several portions of deionized water to avoid contamination errors.

B-2.2 Reagents — In order to minimise sodium pickup, all solutions shall preferably be stored in plastic bottles. The use of small containers reduces the amount of sodium which may be picked up from the bottle walls when the solution is poured. Each container shall be thoroughly shaken to wash away accumulated salts from the walls before the solution is poured.

B-2.2.1 Deionized Distilled Water — Prepare by passing distilled water through a mixed bed of ion-exchange resins. Use deionized water for the preparation of all reagents, calibration standards and as dilution water.

B-2.2.2 Weigh 2.5422 g of Sodium Chloride AR previously dried at 110°C for one and half hours and cooled in a dessicator in a 1 litre standard flask. Dissolve in small volume deionized distilled water and then make up to the volume by the same quality of water. This solution gives 1000 µg/ml Na which could be stored for about two months.

B-2.2.3 Intermediate Standard Sodium Solution — Transfer 25 ml of stock solution to 250 ml standard flask and make up to a volume with deionized distilled water to give 100 µg/ml Na.

B-2.2.4 Working Standard Sodium Solution — Take 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20 ml of intermediate solution to 5 different 100 ml standard flasks and make up the volume by deionized distilled water to give 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20 µg/ml Na respectively.

B-2.3 Procedure

B-2.3.1 Precautions — Install the flame photometer in an area away from direct sunlight or the constant light emitted by an overhead fixture, and free of draughts, dust and tobacco smoke. Guard against contamination arising from corks, filter paper, perspiration, soap, cleaning mixtures, and inadequately rinsed apparatus.

B-2.3.2 Instrument Operation — Because the differences between the makes and models of satisfactory flame photometers render impossible the formulation of detailed instructions applicable to every instrument, follow the manufacturer's recommendation for the selection of the proper photocell, wave length, adjustment of the slit width and sensitivity, the appropriate fuel, air or oxygen pressures, the steps for warm up, correcting for flame background, rinsing of the burner, ignition of sample, and measurement of the emission intensity.

B-2.3.3 Use deionized distilled water as a blank to set zero and 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ sodium standard for maximum deflection i.e. 100. Once the instrument is checked for 0 and 100, use the working standards to prepare a calibration curve. Starting with the highest calibration standard and working towards the most dilute, measure the emission using sodium filter. For test with the sample, use the solution containing sodium (if present) prepared in **B-1.2.2** and dilute it sufficient so as to obtain a sodium concentration within the range of the calibration standards. Measure the emission with both the calibration standards and the samples repeatedly sufficient number of times to secure a reliable mean reading for each solution. Draw a calibration graph from the sodium standards. Determine the sodium concentration of the sample by means of the calibration graph.

B-2.3.4 Calculate the sodium content present in the original sample by multiplying the value read from the calibration graph by the appropriate dilution factor.

INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS (SI UNITS)

Base Units

Quantity	Unit	Symbol
Length	metre	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric current	ampere	A
Thermodynamic temperature	kelvin	K
Luminous intensity	candela	cd
Amount of substance	mole	mol

Supplementary Units

Quantity	Unit	Symbol
Plane angle	radian	rad
Solid angle	steradian	sr

Derived Units

Quantity	Unit	Symbol	Definition
Force	newton	N	1 N = 1 kg.m/s ²
Energy	joule	J	1 J = 1 N.m
Power	watt	W	1 W = 1 J/s
Flux	weber	Wb	1 Wb = 1 V.s
Flux density	tesla	T	1 T = 1 Wb/m ²
Frequency	hertz	Hz	1 Hz = 1 c/s (s ⁻¹)
Electric conductance	siemens	S	1 S = 1 A/V
Electromotive force	volt	V	1 V = 1 W/A
Pressure, stress	pascal	Pa	1 Pa = 1 N/m ²

INDIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTION

Manak Bhavan, 9 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, NEW DELHI 110002

Telephones : 26 60 21, 27 01 31

Telegrams : Manaksanstha

Regional Offices:

Western : Novelty Chambers, Grant Road
 Eastern : 5 Chowringhee Approach
 Southern : C. I. T. Campus
 Northern : B69, Phase VII

BOMBAY 400007 37 97 29
 CALCUTTA 700072 27 50 90
 MADRAS 600113 41 24 42
 S.A.S. NAGAR —
 (MOHALI) 160051

Telephone

Branch Offices:

'Pushpak', Nurmohamed Shaikh Marg, Khanpur
 'F' Block, Unity Bldg, Narasimharaja Square
 Gangotri Complex, Bhadbhada Road, T. T. Nagar
 22E Kalpana Area
 5-8-56C L. N. Gupta Marg
 R14 Yudhister Marg, C Scheme
 117/418 B Sarvodaya Nagar
 Patliputra Industrial Estate
 Hantex Bldg (2nd Floor), Rly Station Road

AHMADABAD 380001 2 03 91
 BANGALORE 560002 22 48 05
 BHOPAL 462003 6 27 16
 BHUBANESHWAR 751014 5 36 27
 HYDERABAD 500001 22 10 83
 JAIPUR 302005 6 98 32
 KANPUR 208005 4 72 92
 PATNA 800013 6 28 08
 TRIVANDRUM 695001 32 27